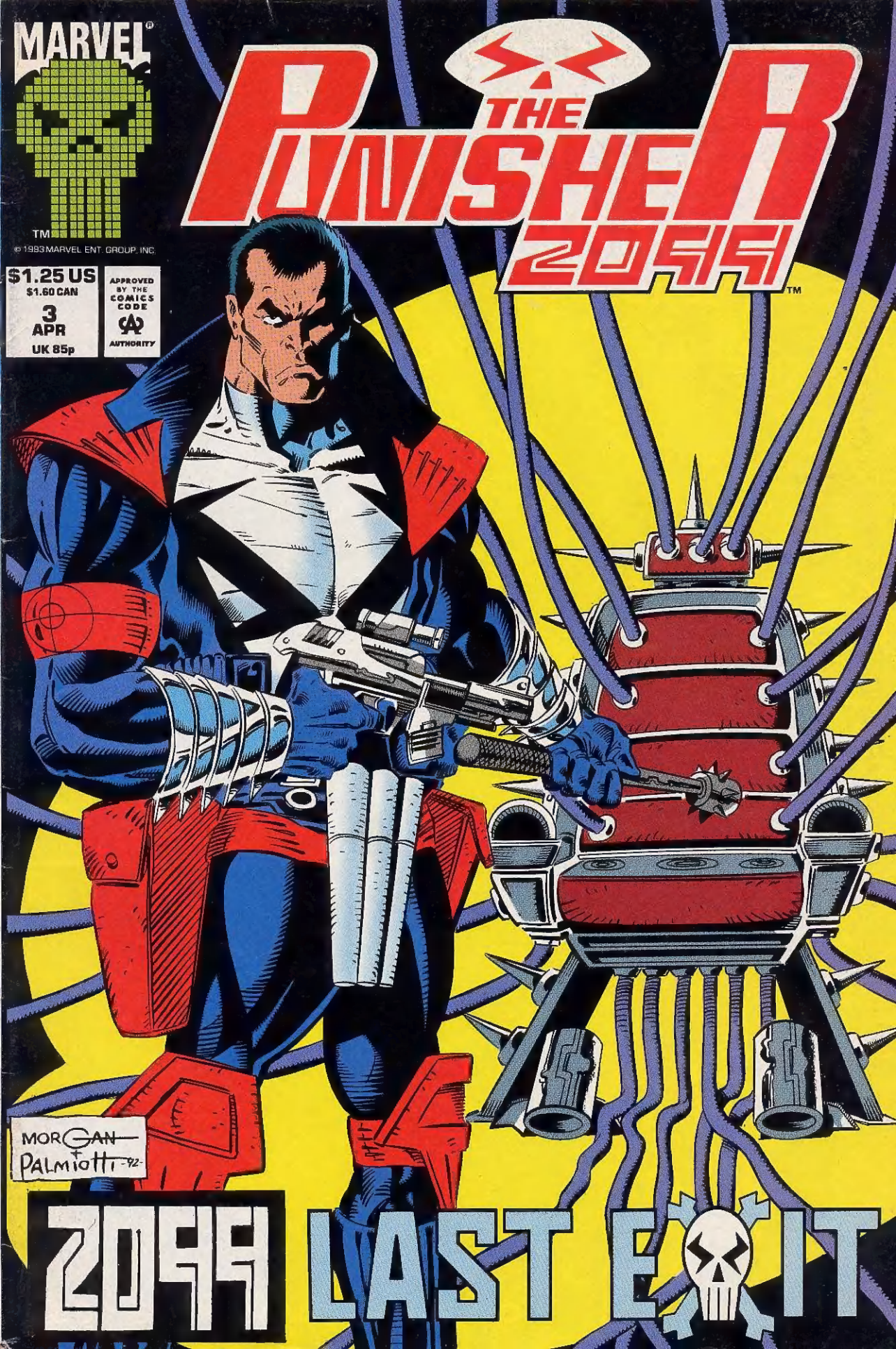
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THE PUNISHER 2099
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MORGAN PALMIOTTI -92-
2099
LAST EXIT

HIS FAMILY WAS MURDERED BY A PSYCHOPATH IN AN AGE WHERE JUSTICE CAN BE BOUGHT AND NO ONE BELIEVES IN OLD FASHIONED PUNISHMENT ANYMORE... NO ONE EXCEPT JAKE GALLOWS... A WEAPONS SPECIALIST IN THE PUBLIC EYE POLICE BY DAY, AT NIGHT HE IS INCORRUPTABLE JUSTICE.

STAN LEE PRESENTS: **PUNISHER 2099**

GIMME THE SLUG, SAUCERS...
WHICH ONE WAS IT NOW, BABE?
DON'T JERK ME AROUND-- YOU KNOW... "BLUE SKY-SIX."
I WAS IN THE GOLDEN VALLEY... I GOTTA LIVE THE REST.
SURE. RELAX. COST YOU A THOUSAND MAX.
THAT'S TWO HUNDRED MORE THAN LAST TIME!
STRAIGHT, BABE. YOU'RE NOT IN TOTAL REALITY NOW.
LISTEN, I'VE GOT THE DEEDS TO MY PARENTS' APARTMENT. CAN YOU GIVE ME BLUE SKY ONE THROUGH TWENTY? ON LOOP? I DON'T EVER WANT TO COME OUT.
I KINDA FIGURED YOU WOULDN'T. I GOT THE PLUG RIGHT HERE.

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WHEN THEY'RE ON LOOP, THEY DON'T EAT, THEY DON'T SLEEP.
UNLESS SOMEONE BREAKS THE PROGRAM, THEY USUALLY DIE.
IT ACCESSES THEM TO A TOTAL REALITY DREAMSCAPE. WITHOUT THE BLOCKERS AND AUTO INTERRUPTERS OF VIRTUAL REALITY.
A BLACK AMBULANCE...?! NO ONE HERE NEEDS AN AMBULANCE, MAN...
WRONG.
THMP
THMP

PAT MILLS & TONY SKINNER
WRITERS

TOM MORGAN
PENCILER

JIM PALMIOTTI
INKER

KEN LOPEZ
LETTERER

IAN LAUGHLIN
COLORIST

JOEY CAVALIERI
EDITOR

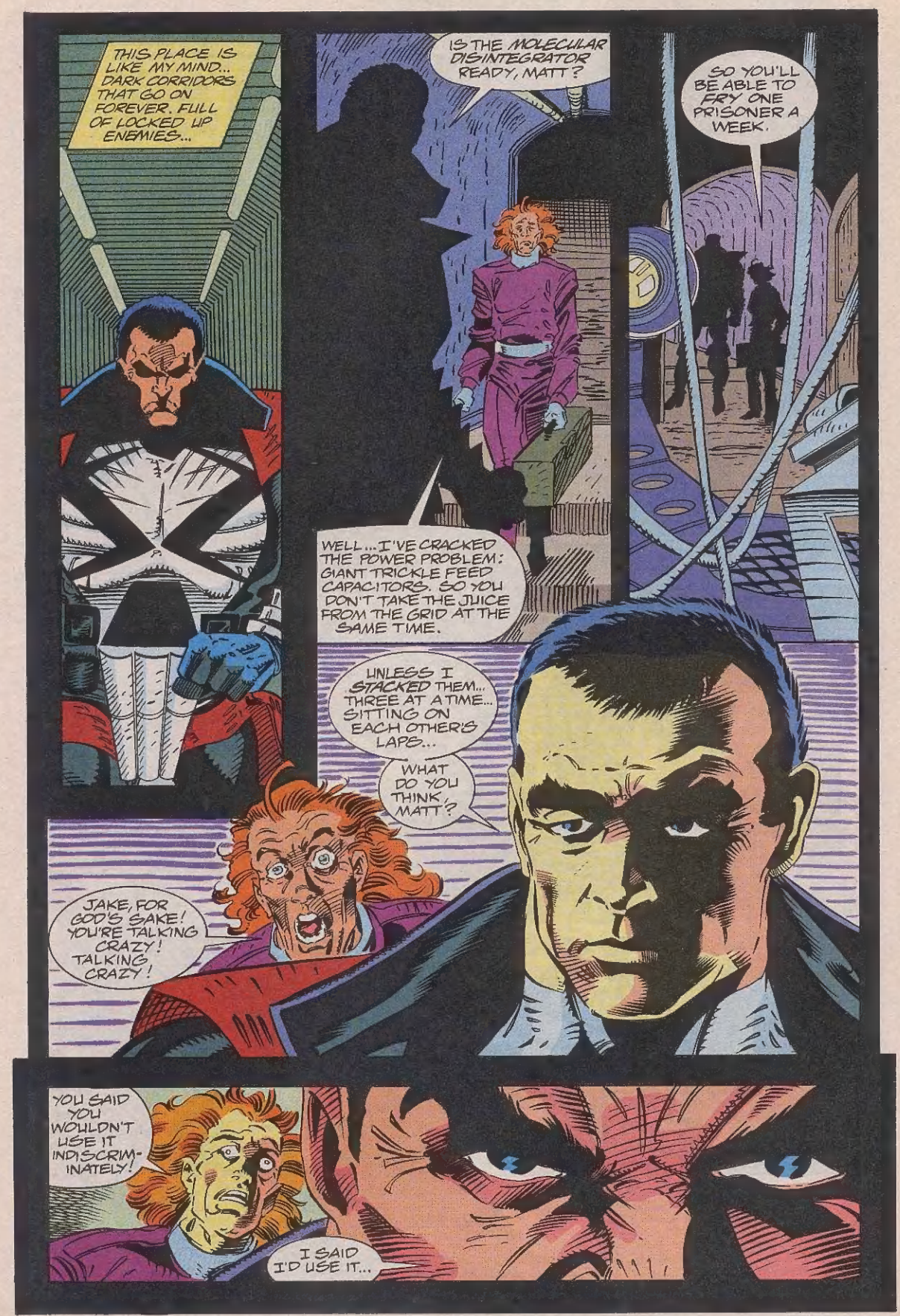
TOM DEFALCO
FEARMASTER

THAT PLUGHEAD MUST BE THE SAME AGE AS ASTRA, BALDUR'S FIANCEE...
AND TR IS KILLING HER JUST AS SURELY AS THE MICROWAVES KILLED ASTRA...
OH, MY PRINCE... WHAT THE SHOCK?
YOU CREEP! HOW AM I GONNA EARN THE MONEY TO BUY ANOTHER SYSTEM?
LOOK, GIRL, YOU NEED EYE WASHING. I KNOW A PLACE THAT HELPS PEOPLE LIKE YOU.
YOU GET HELP, FREAK. YOU'RE THE SICKO HERE!
I'M SICK, ALL RIGHT. SICK OF A WORLD THAT ALLOWS PUSHERS TO GET OFF WITH A FINE OR A GERIO-INJECTION...

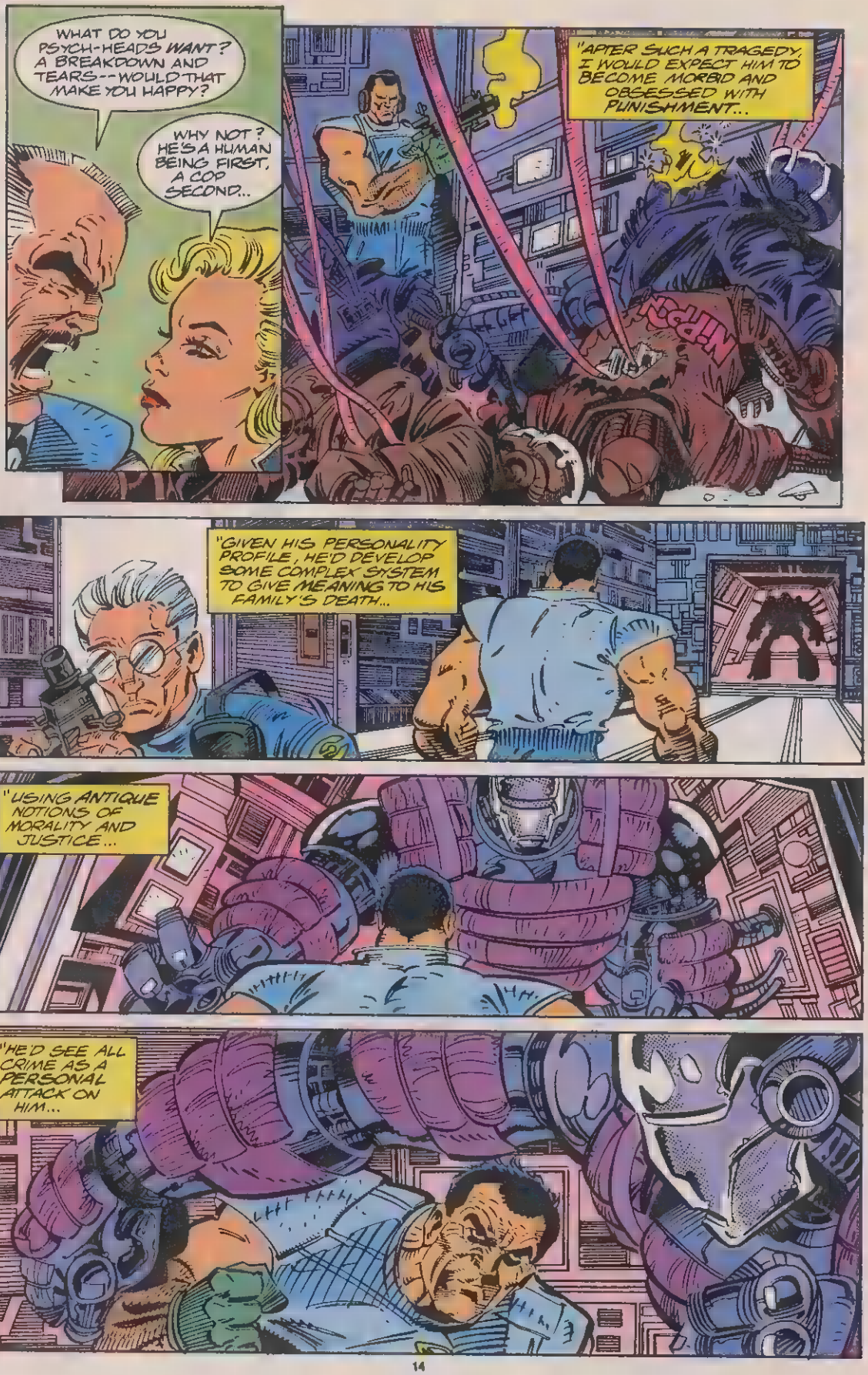
USING A BLACK CARDER AMBULANCE, I CAN GO ANYWHERE I LIKE WITHOUT QUESTION...
I'M NOT GOING TO EXECUTE THIS PUSHER. HIS CRIME DOESN'T QUITE DESERVE LOSING HIS LIFE.
I'LL JUST SETTLE FOR TWENTY YEARS OF IT.
WHA...WHAT'S THE HARDWARE?
IT'S A D.S.S...!
DEATH SUPPORT SYSTEM.
YOU TRY TO ESCAPE AND IT KILLS YOU.
BANG
COLA
WHEE-ONKWHEE-ONK

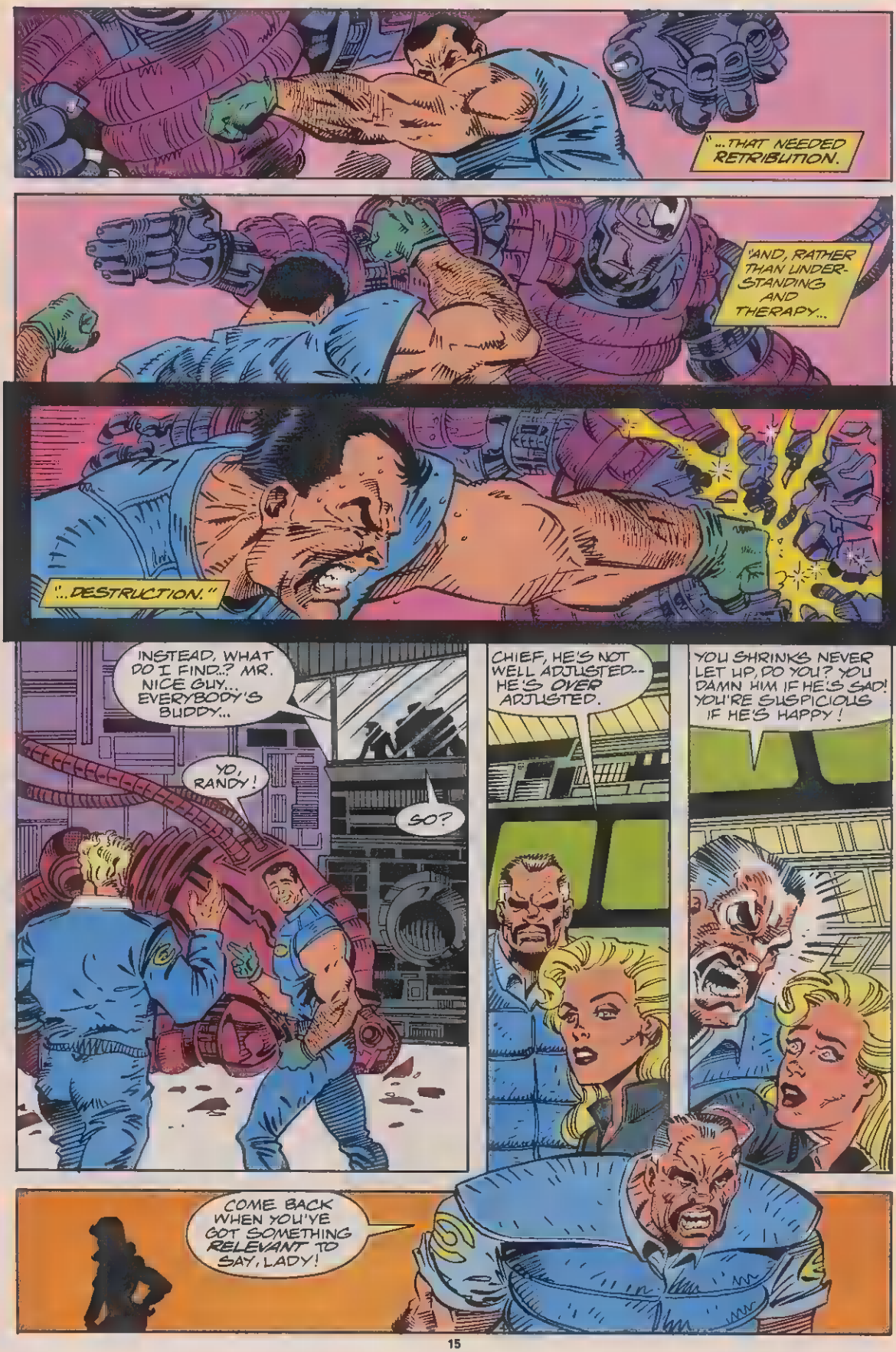
WELCOME TO PUNISHMENT HOTEL.
WHAT HOTEL...? WHAT'S GOING DOWN HERE, MAN?
PRISON. TWENTY YEARS.
A WHAT...? WHAT'S A PRISON?
A HOTEL WHERE YOU NEVER CHECK OUT. AND THE ROOM SERVICE IS LOUSY.
I'LL SHOW YOU.

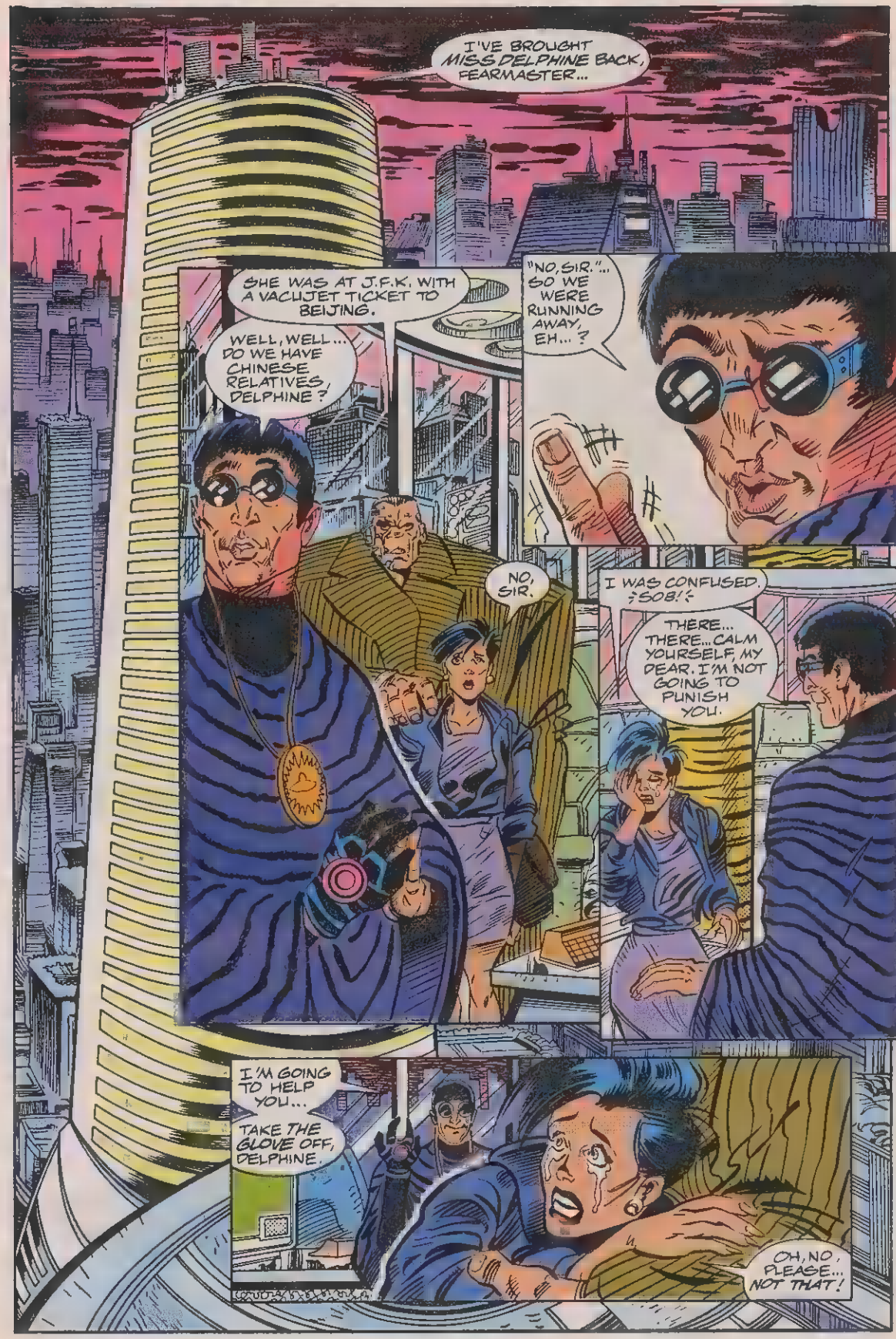
IT'S THE WAY THINGS USED TO BE DONE... REAL PUNISHMENT...
HE MEANS IT, MAN!
HE'S HOWLING AT THE MOON MAD!
GET IN THERE.
YOUR FOOD AND WATER IS DISPERSED AUTOMATICALLY. IT'S NUTRI-BREAD AND WATER. CAKE ON THORS-DAY.
I REPLENISH IT ONCE A WEEK.
SO WHAT HAPPENS TO US IF YOU GET SHOT WHEN YOU'RE OUT THERE SAVING THE WORLD? YOU HEAR ME, MAN?
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
YOU'LL DIE.


THIS PLACE IS LIKE MY MIND... DARK CORRIDORS THAT GO ON FOREVER. FULL OF LOCKED UP ENEMIES...
IS THE MOLECULAR DISINTEGRATOR READY, MATT?
SO YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FRY ONE PRISONER A WEEK.
WELL... I'VE CRACKED THE POWER PROBLEM: GIANT TRICKLE FEED CAPACITORS. SO YOU DON'T TAKE THE JUICE FROM THE GRID AT THE SAME TIME.
UNLESS I STACKED THEM... THREE AT A TIME... SITTING ON EACH OTHER'S LAPS...
WHAT DO YOU THINK, MATT?
JAKE, FOR GOD'S SAKE! YOU'RE TALKING CRAZY! TALKING CRAZY!
YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T USE IT INDISCRIMINATELY!
I SAID I'D USE IT...

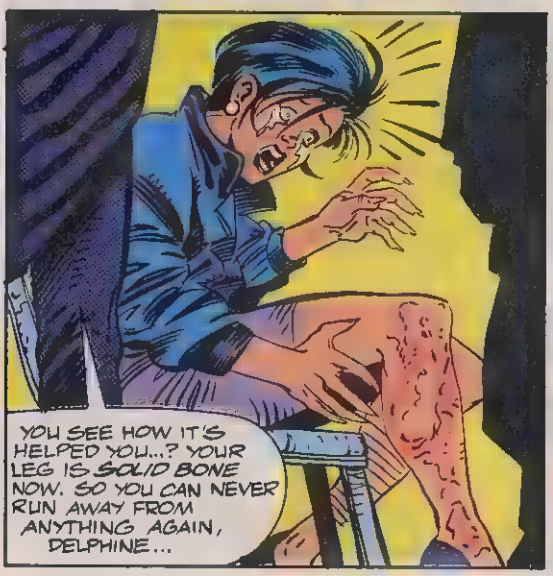
"I'M WORRIED ABOUT JAKE, CHIEF..."
WHAT'S YOUR BEEF, KERRY? HE LOOKS OKAY TO ME... AND THE DIAGNOSTIC PSYCH-COMPUTER GAVE HIM A CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH.
I'M AWARE OF THAT...
BUT I STILL SAY HE'S GOTTEN OVER HIS FAMILY'S MURDER TOO WELL...
PARA-PSYCH


WHAT DO YOU PSYCH-HEADS WANT? A BREAKDOWN AND TEARS--WOULD THAT MAKE YOU HAPPY?
WHY NOT? HE'S A HUMAN BEING FIRST, A COP SECOND...
"AFTER SUCH A TRAGEDY, I WOULD EXPECT HIM TO BECOME MORBID AND OBSESSED WITH PUNISHMENT...
"GIVEN HIS PERSONALITY PROFILE, HE'D DEVELOP SOME COMPLEX SYSTEM TO GIVE MEANING TO HIS FAMILY'S DEATH...
"USING ANTIQUE NOTIONS OF MORALITY AND JUSTICE...
"HE'D SEE ALL CRIME AS A PERSONAL ATTACK ON HIM...


"...THAT NEEDED RETRIBUTION.
"AND, RATHER THAN UNDERSTANDING AND THERAPY...
"...DESTRUCTION."
INSTEAD, WHAT DO I FIND..? MR. NICE GUY... EVERYBODY'S BUDDY...
YO, RANDY!
SO?
CHIEF, HE'S NOT WELL ADJUSTED-- HE'S OVER ADJUSTED.
YOU SHRINKS NEVER LET UP, DO YOU? YOU DAMN HIM IF HE'S SAD! YOU'RE SUSPICIOUS IF HE'S HAPPY!
COME BACK WHEN YOU'YE GOT SOMETHING RELEVANT TO SAY, LADY!

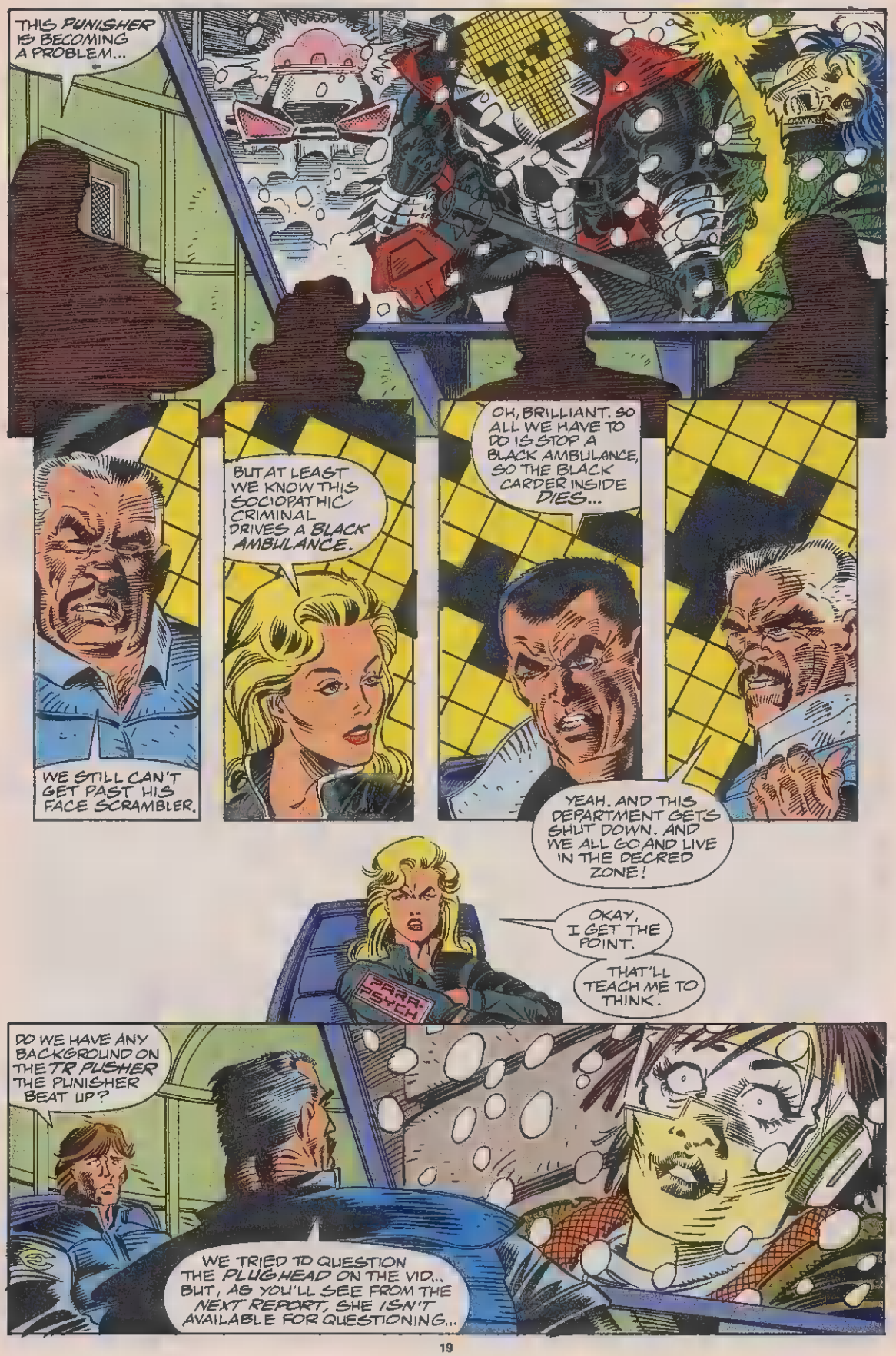

I'VE BROUGHT MISS DELPHINE BACK, FEARMASTER...
SHE WAS AT J.F.K. WITH A VACUJET TICKET TO BEIJING.
WELL, WELL... DO WE HAVE CHINESE RELATIVES, DELPHINE?
"NO, SIR."... SO WE WERE RUNNING AWAY, EH...?
NO, SIR.
I WAS CONFUSED. ;SOB!;
THERE... THERE... CALM YOURSELF, MY DEAR. I'M NOT GOING TO PUNISH YOU.
I'M GOING TO HELP YOU...
TAKE THE GLOVE OFF, DELPHINE.
OH, NO, PLEASE... NOT THAT!

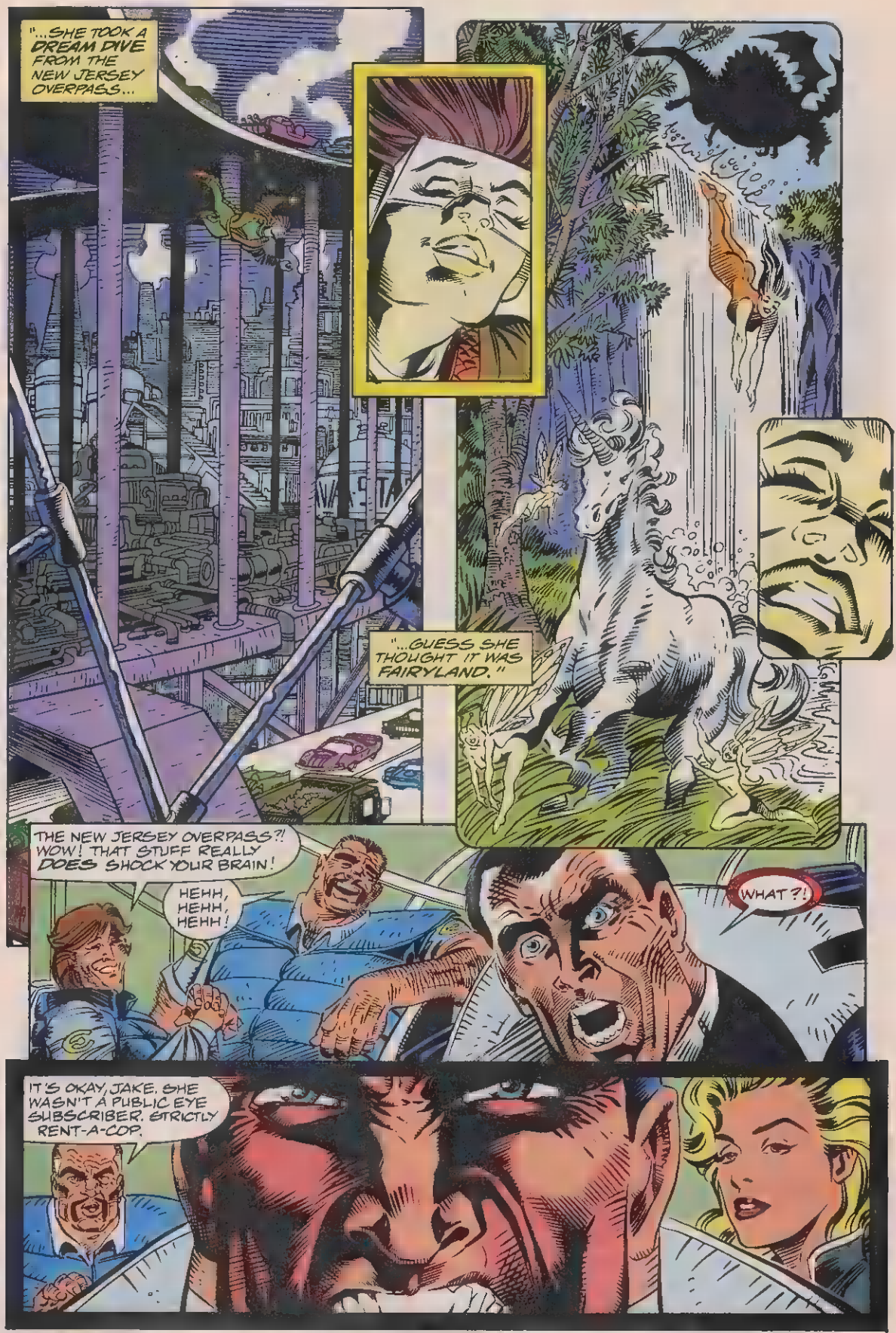
YOU POOR FRIGHTENED CHILD... DON'T WORRY. I'LL DO IT.
ISN'T IT BEAUTIFUL...? A GIFT FROM MY FRIENDS... ONE DAY, ALL OF ME WILL BE LIKE THIS.
BUT FOR NOW, I WILL USE ITS HEALING PROPERTIES TO HELP YOU...
FEEL THE PAIN, DELPHINE... FEEL WHAT IT'S DOING FOR YOU...
AHHHHHH!
FEEL HOW THE CELLS AND MOLECULES IN YOUR LEG ARE CHANGING... CALCIFYING...


YOU SEE HOW IT'S HELPED YOU...? YOUR LEG IS SOLID BONE NOW. SO YOU CAN NEVER RUN AWAY FROM ANYTHING AGAIN, DELPHINE...

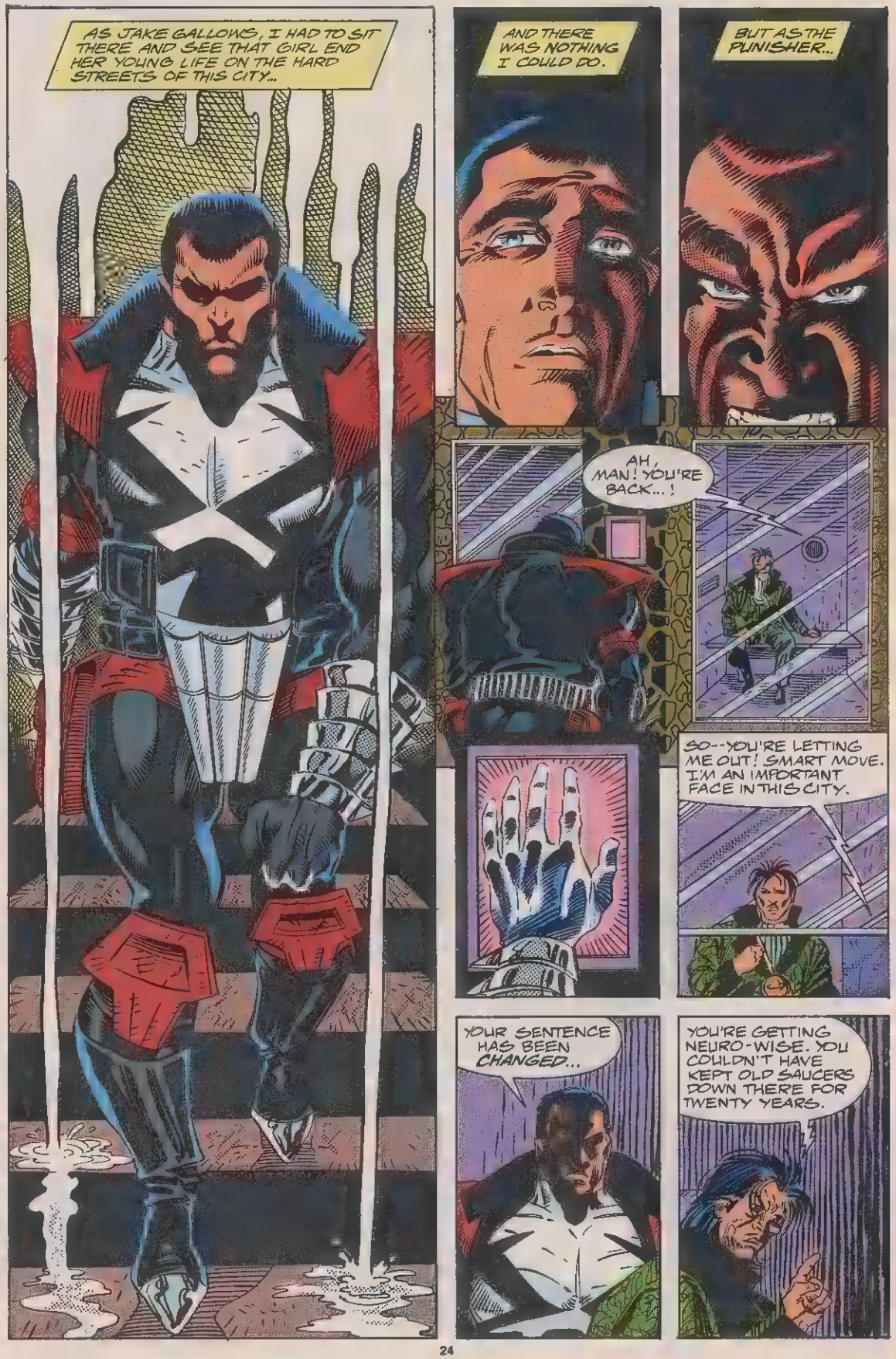
AND YOU MUSTN'T WORRY..THE PAIN WILL PASS IN A MONTH OR TWO.
YOU CAN THANK ME THEN.

HOT DEMO, FEARMASTER! I'D HAVE GIVEN HER CONCRETE BOOTS... ONLY YOU COULD GIVE HER A CONCRETE LEG! HAA, HA, HA!
YOUR ATTITUDE IS ALARMING, MULTI-FRACTOR. WHAT I DO, I DO OUT OF LOVE.
PERHAPS I COULD HELP YOU AMEND YOUR ATTITUDE...
ER-ER... ABOUT THE CRIME FIGURES, SIR... I'VE GOT A FULL REPORT HERE.
SUBJECT APTLY CHANGED, MY UGLY FRIEND. LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR PLAN...
AS YOU'LL SEE, WE CAN OPEN A HOLO-PORN COMPLEX IN THE DECRED ZONE... ONLY PROBLEM IS THE STREET SCUM WHO LIVE THERE.
BULLDOZE THEIR HOUSES, AND THE OTHER?
A FREELANCE VIGILANTE CALLED "THE PUNISHER."
DON'T CONCERN ME WITH TRIVIA, FRACTOR.
WITH RESPECT, SIR, IF HE WAS TRIVIA, I WOULDN'T HAVE MENTIONED HIM.
THIS PUNISHER IS BECOMING A PROBLEM...


THIS PUNISHER IS BECOMING A PROBLEM...
WE STILL CAN'T GET PAST HIS FACE SCRAMBLER.
BUT AT LEAST WE KNOW THIS SOCIOPATHIC CRIMINAL DRIVES A BLACK AMBULANCE.
OH, BRILLIANT. SO ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS STOP A BLACK AMBULANCE, SO THE BLACK CARDER INSIDE DIES...
YEAH. AND THIS DEPARTMENT GETS SHUT DOWN. AND WE ALL GO AND LIVE IN THE DECRED ZONE!
PARA PSYCH
OKAY, I GET THE POINT.
THAT'LL TEACH ME TO THINK.
DO WE HAVE ANY BACKGROUND ON THE TR PUSHER THE PUNISHER BEAT UP?
WE TRIED TO QUESTION THE PLUGHEAD ON THE VID... BUT, AS YOU'LL SEE FROM THE NEXT REPORT, SHE ISN'T AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONING...


"...SHE TOOK A DREAM DIVE FROM THE NEW JERSEY OVERPASS...
"...GUESS SHE THOUGHT IT WAS FAIRYLAND."
THE NEW JERSEY OVERPASS?! WOW! THAT STUFF REALLY DOES SHOCK YOUR BRAIN!
HEHH, HEHH, HEHH!
WHAT?!
IT'S OKAY, JAKE. SHE WASN'T A PUBLIC EYE SUBSCRIBER. STRICTLY RENT-A-COP.

BACK UP, JAKE... THAT PARA-PSYCH IS GIVING ME THE PROFESSIONAL EYE.
GOTTA PUT ON A FACE...
SURE, SURE-- IF SHE'S NOT ONE OF OURS, SHE'S NOBODY.
AND IF NOBODY GETS HURT, THERE'S NO CRIME. RIGHT?
RIGHT. SO LET'S GET BACK TO THIS PUNISHER, FOLKS... WE'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY OF CRACKING HIS MASK.
I'M WORKING WITH MATT AXEL ON IT, CHIEF. IF ANYONE CAN CRACK THAT FACE SCRAMBLER, IT'S MATT...
HE'S PUT A LOT OF EFFORT INTO IT.
PSYCH


AS JAKE GALLOWS, I HAD TO SIT THERE AND SEE THAT GIRL END HER YOUNG LIFE ON THE HARD STREETS OF THIS CITY...
AND THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO.
BUT AS THE PUNISHER...
AH, MAN! YOU'RE BACK...!
SO--YOU'RE LETTING ME OUT! SMART MOVE. I'M AN IMPORTANT FACE IN THIS CITY.
YOUR SENTENCE HAS BEEN CHANGED...
YOU'RE GETTING NEURO-WISE. YOU COULDN'T HAVE KEPT OLD SAUCERS DOWN THERE FOR TWENTY YEARS.

YOU'RE RIGHT, I COULDN'T.
SO WHERE ARE YOU TALKING ME?
TO THE EXIT?
YES.
THE LAST EXIT.
WHAT IS THIS, MAN?
A MOLECULAR DISINTEGRATOR.
KLICK KLICK
KLICK KLICK
THE LAST METHOD OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT BEFORE IT WAS BANNED FIFTY YEARS AGO!

BULLPEN BULLETINS

FABE'S RAVES

When Mark Gruenwald asked me to write one of these things, I jumped at the chance to plug WONDER MAN in this space. Quite simply, I think it's one of Marvel's strongest — and least recognized — super hero titles (after NEW WARRIORS, of course). From day one, we've had **Gerard Jones** writing stories which explored both the humorous aspects of Hollywood's hottest hero — and the emotionally painful sides of Simon Williams as well. Combined with the artistic talents of **Jeff Johnson** and **Dan Panosian**, the letters of **Pat Brosseau** and the vibrant colors of **Joe Rosas**, I felt WONDY was one of the smoothest reads and slickest looking books we had.

So why is it such a well-kept secret?

Well, maybe because we haven't done enough to shake things up for Simon. That changes *now*. Simon has a major four-part storyline coming up between issues #22 through #25 which will dig deeper into the character's life, personality, and powers than ever before. Wonder Man will literally have to go to the depths of Hades to save not only his best friend's life — but also salvage what is left of his tortured soul. The storyline will feature the villainy of the Grim Reaper, the Enchantress, and the spirits of Baron Zemo and the Executioner! But wait, there's more! Wondy will also have to face down *Blackheart*, the son of Mephisto — which will lead to a confrontation with the Master of Darkness himself!

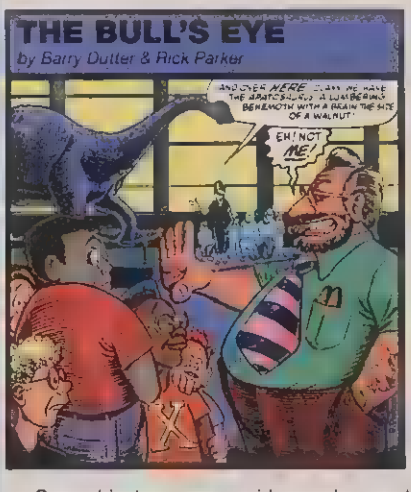
That sounds like a lot going on in Wonder Man's life, doesn't it? Well, I haven't even mentioned the *new costume* to debut in issue #25. Or the four interlocking covers which will be inserted as a poster into that exciting giant-sized issue. Or a very interesting romantic encounter between Wonder Man and his long-time dalliance, the *Scarlet Witch*.

Yes, we are giving WONDER MAN a major kick in the butt to get as many of you out there as possible to sample the book. For our regular readers, this is a natural progression in the storyline. For new readers — hold onto your underwear 'cause we're gonna move so fast and furious, you're gonna wind up with a Wondy-Wedgie!

FABIAN

— Fabian Nicieza
(Pronounced just like it's spelled)

February is like the Herve Villechaize of months. When compared to something like January, which has as many days as Baskin Robins has flavors, February just comes up short. Since February is such a homunculus of a month, we'll keep this week's column limited to short subjects.


THE BULL'S EYE
by Barry Dutter & Rick Parker
AND OVER HERE, CLASS, WE HAVE THE APATOSAURUS, A LIZARD BEHIND BENEATH WITH A BRAIN THE SIZE OF A WALNUT!
EH! NOT ME!

One subject we never paid enough attention to in school was history. If we had, we would have learned more about the time when dinosaurs ruled the earth (until a royal scandal rocked the dinosaur world). Fortunately, we now have a chance to catch up on our dino-knowledge with the ultra-prehistoric four-issue DINOSAURS limited series. (We're talking *real* dinosaurs here, not that completely inaccurate Simpsons/Honeymooners rip you see on TV on Friday nights.)

On November 14 of last year, the creators of Marvel's DINOSAURS held a signing at the far-famed British Museum of Natural History. Said creators also offered to carve their names in the walls of the museum, as our caveman brothers would have done so long ago, but that offer was received about warmly as the next Ice Age. Among the dino-creators gathered 'round the tar pits were artists **John Bolton, Kevin Hopgood,** and **Garry Leach,** well writers **Dan Abnett, Nick Vince, Graham Marks,** and editor **Steve White**. Scientific consultant/paleontologist **Howgate** was also on hand, to make sure no one made off with any dinosaur bones souvenirs. In explaining the popularity of dinosaurs, Steve White said, "They were monsters that were real. They were not just fairy tales!"

One fairy tale that never seems to have happy ending is the saga of the bagpiping escapades of **Hildy Mesnik**'s assistant editor, "Professor" **James Felder.** "Professor Pipes," as he's known around the office, recently was written up in the *New York Times* — and for once, it wasn't on the police blotter! The Pop & Jazz page featured piece on the Prof's pulse-pounding performance at the Knitting Factory (covered on this page last week). The *Times* described Professor Felder's playing "often amusing" and "occasionally uninspired." Ironically, those are the very words we so often use to describe the Professor!

One group that never fails to inspire us is the hard-core mock and roll band, *Green Jello!* If you thought *Kiss* was outrageous in the 1970s, wait till you see Green Jello! These guys dress up in costumes so outrageous, they make the X-Men look like mutants! Green Jello has a funkadelic video and five song CD out in stores now, with an album on the way. Since emerging from the refrigerator, the band has been touring the country, hitting up various night clubs and comic book conventions, including the San Diego Comics Con. Needless to say, these guys are big-time Marveloids from way back when Jerry Lee Lewis was wearing blue suede baby booties. And just the other week the GJ gang came up to the Marvel offices to take squint at the House of Ideas while we got a gander of them!

We could go on and on, but we'll cut it short! Till next time, remember — everything singer Randy Newman said about short people was somewhat short-sighted!

HYPE-ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ **FASHION #28:** Barbie's an artist! Well, hello Dali!
- ☐ **BLACK AXE #1:** It's a cut above the rest! Cover by John Romita Jr.
- ☐ **CODENAME: GENETIX #4 of 4:** A Prime Evil battle in the **Savage Land!**
- ☐ **#73:** Conan's lost his soul! Psst — check under the couch!
- ☐ **DEATHLOK** Magnum's taking over **Wakanda** — and we don't mean Tom Selleck!
- ☐ **DR. STRANGE #52:** Doc's looking for **Morbius's** soul! Maybe Conan has it!
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO COMICS #4:** Featuring the third doctor — but who's counting?
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #375:** An ultra-violet cover on an ultra-violent 48-page issue!
- ☐ **GHOST SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #9:** What's that smell? It's a new villain, **Brimstone!**
- ☐ **HELLSTORM #1:** Who could the father be of this demonic super hero? Could it be maybe ... **Satan?**
- ☐ **THE INCOMPLETE DEATH'S HEAD Of 12:** When the sky-train is hijacked, Death's Head finds himself ... under siege!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #291:** Tony vs. Rhodey — war of the Iron Men! It's heavy metal hoedown!
- ☐ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT:** Formerly MARVEL REQUIRER! Still free!
- ☐ **MARVEL UNIVERSE EDITION #29:** With **Sabretooth, U.S.Agent,** and Banana Man!
- ☐ **METEOR MAN #1:** 64 page movie adaptation that will hit you like rock from the sky!
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT** Moon Knight takes stand against **Deadzone!**
- ☐ **MOTORMOUTH #11:** If Motormouth can't escape from Mys-Tech, she'll be Mys-Tech **pizza!**
- ☐ **MYS-TECH #2 of 4:** It's UK and US heroes, 2gether 4 U 2 N-joy!
- ☐ **THE 'NAM #79:** A Michael Golden cover on the Tet offensive!
- ☐ **WARRIORS #34:** The Darkforce possesses **Spider-Man,** the **Avengers,** and **Darkhawk!**
- ☐ **PUNISHER #3:** If you don't like Gallows humor, stay away!
- ☐ **PUNISHER JOURNAL #53:** Punisher and Ice turn up the heat!
- ☐ **SILVER SURFER #79:** Surf finds two refugees from the **Kree/Shi'Ar War!**
- ☐ **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #199:** The Green Goblin and the X-Men stop by!
- ☐ **WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWORLD #8:** It's Shatner-iffic!
- ☐ **THOR #461: Beta Ray Bill** is gunning for Thor!
- ☐ **TOXIC CRUSADERS of 4:** They'll flush pollution right down the bowl!
- ☐ **3** A lynch mob wants to string up Venom by webs!
- ☐ **X-FORCE #21:** Goin' head-to-head with ol' Shell-Head ... **Iron Man!**
- ☐ He ain't heavy ... he's my **Brotherhood Evil Mutants!**

WHY, MAN? WHAT HAVE I DONE?
THAT GIRL YOU HOOKED ON TR...
WHAT ABOUT HER? SHE WAS NOTHING.
WHO CARES ABOUT HER?
I CARE.
SHE DIED THIS MORNING. DREAM DIVE.
BIG-SHOCKING-DEAL! MY CUSTOMERS DO IT ALL THE TIME. SO WHAT?
SO YOUR SENTENCE HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM TWENTY YEARS...
"...TO DEATH!"

GO ON THEN! GO ON! WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO? FILL MY DIAPER?
THROW THE SWITCH! IT'LL BE OVER IN A SPLIT SECOND!
BETTER THAN LISTENING TO TWENTY YEARS OF YOUR SELF-RIGHTEOUS DRIVEL!
TOOF
YOU HEAR ME, PUNISHER?
ABOUT THAT "SPLIT SECOND"...
YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY NOT UP ON THE LATEST RESEARCH.
DO YOU KNOW THAT WHEN THE BRAIN KNOWS IT'S GOING TO DIE, IT DOES SOMETHING VERY STRANGE..?
"IT STRETCHES ITS LAST EXPERIENCE...
"..SO THAT 'SPLIT SECOND' FEELS LIKE IT LASTS... FOR ALL ETERNITY!
"WHAT WILL YOUR LAST EXPERIENCE BE, SAUCERS...?

"...AS YOU LOSE YOUR BODY...
"NERVE ENDING BY NERVE ENDING...
"CELL BY CELL...
"MOLECULE BY MOLECULE...
"WILL IT BE...A QUICK DEATH?
OR ETERNAL PUNISHMENT?
NEXT: INTO THE BARRIO!

TARGET PRACTICE

Joey Cavalieri, Editor • Sarra Mossoff, Assistant Editor

c/o Marvel Comics • 387 Park Avenue South • New York, New York 10016

All letters for publication must include your name and address, although we will gladly withhold that info upon request.

OUT OF MY HEAD

I managed to leave Ernie Kovacs and David Letterman off my list of heroes in last issue. Since our proofreader, Jack Abel, was the first to see *my* list, he provided his own: FDR, Fiorello LaGuardia, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio, Joe Louis, John Tunis, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Eleanor Roosevelt, Tommy Dorsey, Benny Goodman, Jack Benny and Irving Berlin.

Jack's list tells me a lot about Jack, that's for sure. It tells me that he appreciates a time when it was easier to tell the good guys from the bad.

I'm still interested in *your* list.

Next subject: They tell me that this year I'll be attending conventions in Chicago, Atlanta and Mid-Ohio. That's barring accidents, like my getting completely lost, or scheduling 2099 Writers' Summit II opposite a con. Hope to see you there.

Dear Future Punishers,

I've read issue #1 of PUNISHER 2099. Whoa! Nice art! Tom and Jim did a bang-up job. The origin of this Punisher sounds awfully familiar. Are there going to be any PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL files of 2099 to talk about the weapons used in 2099, as opposed to the 1993 Punisher?

One suggestion: how about one of the Punisher's old enemies makes a re-appearance, like a 2099 villain takes on the identity of the old Punisher? But who took on the Punisher and lived long enough to be an enemy? Oh yeah, Jigsaw. How about he leaves a book, too, talking about the Punisher. A villain of 2099 finds it and follows in the footsteps of Jigsaw or some other Punisher foe. Maybe have Doom 2099 with Punisher 2099? Either a team-up or face-off.

Shawn Childress
1610 Jamison Place
Longmont, CO 80501

All good suggestions, Shawn. But what do you think of the foes he's got now?

Dear *Target Practice*,

Interestingly enough, out of all the 2099 books, I was least interested in the new Punisher title. But I picked it up on a whim, deciding to give it a chance. I am sooo glad I did. Joey, Pat and the rest of y'all have an outstanding book second only to SPIDER-MAN 2099. It is easily the best Punisher title as this Punisher is fighting against even greater odds. Let's face it, Frank Castle has a tough job, but our society is nowhere near as bad as Jake's. It would be good to see these two together somehow. I think they would admire each other greatly.

Jake's villains are also cut from a grimmer stock than Frank's. Techno-Shamans, Gene Guards, and Kron! Geez, our Punisher has it easy!

Will Jake have a "Microchip" to help him in his war on crime? And will there be annuals for the 2099 line?

See ya in thirty!

David Scott
2658 W. Boise #3
Boise, ID 83706

No annuals yet, Dave. The closest thing to them will be 2099 UNLIMITED, our quarterly explosion of new concepts and characters! Matt Axel sort of takes the place of Microchip in the twenty-first century.

Dear Joey,

I just picked up an issue of PUNISHER 2099 #1 in a comic store called Comics Etc. I read it, then I decided to buy it. It was pretty cool! I liked the way the art work was done, especially with Kron Stone. And the Punisher was really high tech. The thing I didn't like about this story was that you made Kron the son of Tyler Stone. How could Tyler have raised such a maniac? Was Kron Stone brain damaged or something?

I'm curious: Is the Punisher going to let Kron live or is he going to destroy him the same way he has destroyed the other bad guys?

Until Dr. Doom takes up tap dancing, Make Mine Marvel!

Jonathan Doezema
RD #1 Box 38A
Houghton, NY 14744

By now, you've seen the fate of Kron Stone. His old man isn't exactly Mister Nice Guy, Jon, so we consider Kron a perfect chip off the old block. Besides, seeing Tyler's kid tells us a lot more about Tyler, doesn't it?

Dear *Target Practice*,

Another great 2099 series sure to be a hit! Of course I am talking about Jake Gallows (catchy name) a.k.a. Punisher 2099. Where does he get such wonderful toys? This is one guy that proves that there is still justice in the world. I just love his face scrambler and his arsenal.

Again I say, "great work." One question: is the Punisher going to team up with another 2099 series anytime soon?

Dale Jackson
P.O. Box 441
Marshville, NC 28103

Yes, but we're keeping exactly when under wraps just now (but Joey did hint at it in his "Out Of My Head" column above).

Dear *Target Practice*,

I have just finished PUNISHER 2099 #1. It was great! I do have a few questions and comments though:

1) What happened to the original Punisher? I mean how did he die?

2) I like Jake's "Heat Sink Armor" and "Skull Scrambler." Does he have any more tricks up his sleeve?

3) Don't get me wrong—the artwork and script on this book were outstanding! But will John Romita, Jr. or Chuck Dixon be joining us in this title?

4) Kron Stone would make a great archenemy for Punisher. Don't kill him.

Well, that's all for now. Keep Jake Punishing!

Jeremy Brittan
8090 34th Ave. North
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

We're also keeping mum about Frank Castle's "death," especially since if you want to know more about him, he's in plenty of monthly titles of his own. If you want to know more about Jake Gallows, this is the place.

More gizmos, Jeremy? You bet! As for J.R. Jr. and Chuck, we wouldn't say no if they rang us up, but we couldn't be more thrilled with what Pat, Tony, Tom and Jimmy are doing. Their enthusiasm shows, and they're sticking around. We hope you will, too.

NEXT ISSUE: When you see the cover of our next opus, you'll think we've finally taken leave of our senses! But it's only the "Dawn of the Heroes," the most offbeat Punisher saga yet. We're betting you'll say it's the best!

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #7 Since we plastered him right on the cover, we're not giving anything away by telling you the issue's villain is The Vulture 2099!

RAVAGE 2099 #6 Hey! Paul Ryan's here in the office now showing us what he's done! Holy cats! Get a load of the gimmicks he and Stan gave Ravage in "The Power and the Peril!"

DOOM 2099 #5 The rebuilding of Latveria under Doom's rule...and the first glimpse of the limitless expanse of the Cyberverse!